

March 23, 2010

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Councilwoman Peggy Neely, Phoenix, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 31, 2010
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The next MAG Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage underneath the building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

c: MAG Management Committee

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
March 31, 2010**

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

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| <p>1. <u>Call to Order</u></p> <p>2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u></p> <p>3. <u>Call to the Audience</u></p> <p>An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.</p> <p>4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u></p> <p>The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.</p> <p>5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u></p> <p>Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (*).</p> | <p>3. Information.</p> <p>4. Information and discussion.</p> <p>5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.</p> |
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ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

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| <p>*5A. <u>Approval of the February 24, 2010, Meeting Minutes</u></p> | <p>5A. Review and approval of the February 24, 2010, meeting minutes.</p> |
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TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*5B. ADOT Red Letter Process

In June 1996, the MAG Regional Council approved the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Red Letter process, which requires MAG member agencies to notify ADOT of potential development activities in freeway alignments. Development activities include actions on plans, zoning and permits. ADOT has forwarded a list of notifications from July 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009. Of the 58 notices received, 17 had an impact to the State Highway System. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5B. Information and discussion.

*5C. Project Additions, Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update were approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 25, 2007. Requests have been received from the Arizona Department of Transportation and the Town of Buckeye to add new highway right-of-way projects and modify project costs and descriptions in the program. The project adjustments and new projects being added to the TIP are fiscally constrained and funding is available. The MAG Transportation Review Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the additions, amendments and administrative modifications as listed in the attached table. This item is on the March 23, 2010, Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5C. Approval of the additions, amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program, and as appropriate, to the Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update.

*5D. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Status Report

A Status Report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds dedicated to transportation projects in the MAG region is provided. This report covers the status of project development as of March 24, 2010. It reports on highway, local, transit, and enhancement projects programmed with ARRA funds and the status of

5D. Information and discussion.

project development milestones per project.
Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5E. Approval of Transit Planning Agreement and
Discussion of Potential Legislation

At the February 24, 2010, Regional Council meeting a transit planning agreement (MOU) that incorporated recommendations for transit planning roles and responsibilities was discussed. It was noted at the meeting that the Regional Public Transportation Authority and Valley Metro Rail would be discussing the MOU at their Board meetings and that action by the Regional Council was expected in March.

Also discussed was SB 1416 that attempts to align MAG's federal transit planning roles and responsibilities with state statutes. The MAG Regional Council Executive Committee approved the draft legislation for SB 1416. On February 18, 2010, the RPTA Board approved the MOU and the draft SB 1416. On February 24, 2010, the MAG Regional Council approved draft SB 1416 as rewritten and modified. On March 3, 2010, the METRO Board approved the MOU and the draft SB 1416. On March 10, 2010, the MOU was recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee. On March 22, 2010, the Executive Committee inserted a minor clarification to the MOU and recommended approval. The MOU is being presented to the Regional Council for approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5E. Approval of the transit planning agreement (MOU) to be forwarded to the Federal Transit Administration and included in the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

AIR QUALITY ITEMS

*5F. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment and administrative modification include several projects, including an Arizona Department of Transportation request to add new highway design and right-of-way projects and modify project costs in the program. The amendment includes projects that may be

5F. Consultation.

categorized as exempt from conformity determinations. The administrative modification includes minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5G. Consultation on Proposed Transportation Conformity Processes for the 2010 MAG Conformity Analysis

Federal and state conformity regulations require that MAG consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies on proposed processes for the conformity analysis on the Transportation Improvement Program and Plan. MAG is distributing for comment the proposed processes to be applied beginning with the upcoming conformity analysis for the FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan 2010 Update. Comments regarding this material are requested by March 26, 2010. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5G. Consultation.

*5H. Consultation on Potentially Regionally Significant Projects from the Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Federal and state conformity regulations require that MAG consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies on which transportation projects will be considered "regionally significant" for the purposes of regional emissions analysis. Regionally significant projects are subject to conformity requirements. A list of potentially regionally significant projects from the proposed Draft FY 2011-2015 MAG Transportation Improvement Program has been prepared. It is requested that comments regarding the list be reported to MAG by March 26, 2010. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5H. Consultation.

GENERAL ITEMS

*5I. Development of the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency

5I. Information and input on the development of the fiscal year (FY) 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. This presentation and review of the draft FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget represent the budget document development to date. The elements of the budget document are about 60 percent complete. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5J. Ratification of the Annual Performance Review and Compensation Benefits of the MAG Executive Director

In January 2003, the Regional Council approved an agreement to hire the current Executive Director. As part of this agreement, it was provided that the Executive Director would receive an annual performance review conducted by the Executive Committee. On November 23, 2009, the Executive Committee agreed to move forward with the evaluation survey for the MAG Executive Director's performance review. On November 24, 2009, the survey was sent to members of the Regional Council to receive their input on the review. A survey was also sent to the members of the Executive Committee. On March 22, 2010, the Executive Committee reviewed the comments from the Regional Council, discussed the performance of the Executive Director, and took action regarding the compensation/benefits of the Executive Director to provide a cost-of-living increase in the amount of 2.7 percent and deferred compensation in the amount of 3.1 percent. The action of the Executive Committee is being presented to the Regional Council for ratification.

5J. Ratify the action of the Executive Committee regarding the compensation/benefits of the MAG Executive Director to provide a cost-of-living increase in the amount of 2.7 percent and deferred compensation in the amount of 3.1 percent.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

6. Financial Planning and Fiscal Constraint Requirements for Federal Transportation Funding and Status of Federal Funds Rescission at the Arizona Department of Transportation

At the February Regional Council meeting, MAG staff reported on requests to receive financial information from the Arizona Department of

6. Information and discussion.

Transportation (ADOT) to determine the status of remaining federal fund balances. Of concern was the status of approximately \$40-\$50 million that MAG carried forward from FY 2009 to FY 2010. On February 26, 2010, MAG received an updated financial report (ledger) from ADOT. It appears that MAG has approximately \$48 million in obligation authority that was carried forward to FY 2010. The apportionment that went with this funding was part of the federal rescission in September 2009. To spend the carry forward funds will require new apportionment. We expect the apportionment will be forthcoming with the passing of the full extension of the highway legislation to December 31, 2010.

7. Regional Transit Framework Study

In cooperation with MAG member agencies, the Regional Public Transportation Authority, (RPTA), and Valley Metro Rail (METRO), MAG has developed a Regional Transit Framework to identify regional transit needs beyond the current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The framework provides decision makers with a comprehensive perspective on the costs, schedules, trade-offs, impacts, and policy implications of three distinct transit investment scenarios for year 2030. In addition, the framework defines more conceptual transit needs for year 2050. The MAG Transit Committee, the Transportation Review Committee, and the Management Committee recommended acceptance of the Regional Transit Framework Study. This item is on the March 24, 2010, Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. The study documents are available on the following website: www.bqaz.org. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Acceptance of the findings of the Regional Transit Framework as the public transportation framework for the MAG region; acceptance of the enclosed Illustrative Transit Corridors map for inclusion as unfunded regional transit illustrative corridors in the Regional Transportation Plan; and recommend consideration of future planning actions identified in the study through the MAG Unified Planning Work Program process.

GENERAL ITEMS

8. 2010 Census Update

The U.S. Constitution requires a count of every person living in the United States every 10 years. On March 15, 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau mailed census questionnaires to 135 million

8. Information and discussion.

households nationwide. Approximately \$400 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year based on population data. In Arizona, approximately \$8 billion in federal funding and an additional \$1 billion in state-shared revenue are distributed based on population data. The Census Bureau has been working closely with the Maricopa Association of Governments to provide information to member agencies to assist them in developing strategies for encouraging census participation and increasing mailback response rates. To help identify areas where census response is slow, the Census Bureau has developed the first-ever real-time map to assist cities in tracking daily response totals to allow communities to provide targeted outreach in those hard-to-count areas. A link to the "Take 10" map is available on the home page at www.magcensus.com. An update on this and other regional census efforts will be provided.

9. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Regional Council would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting will be requested.

11. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

12. Adjournment

9. Information, discussion, and possible action.

10. Information and discussion.

11. Information.